

House Study Bill 636 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE
ON COMMERCE BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the definition of safety standards
2 applicable to the regulation of designated public utilities.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 476.1A, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. Safety and engineering standards for equipment,
4 operations, and procedures. For purposes of this section,
5 "safety and engineering standards" means guidelines or standards
6 for the safe provision of gas or electricity as defined in
7 applicable provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations or as
8 accredited by the American national standards institute.

9 Sec. 2. Section 476.1B, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
10 2016, is amended to read as follows:

11 b. Safety and engineering standards for equipment,
12 operations, and procedures. For purposes of this section,
13 "safety and engineering standards" means guidelines or standards
14 for the safe provision of gas or electricity as defined in
15 applicable provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations or as
16 accredited by the American national standards institute.

17 EXPLANATION

18 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
19 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

20 Under current law, electric public utilities having fewer
21 than 10,000 customers, electric cooperative corporations and
22 associations, and municipal gas or electric utilities are
23 subject to specified aspects of the Iowa utilities board's
24 regulatory and enforcement authority. One such aspect
25 involves the application of safety standards. Code section
26 476.1A states that the board has authority with regard to
27 the application of safety and engineering standards for
28 equipment, operations, and procedures applicable to electric
29 public utilities with fewer than 10,000 customers and electric
30 cooperative corporations and associations. Code section 476.1B
31 extends similar authority with regard to the application of
32 safety standards to municipal gas or electric utilities.

33 This bill standardizes these references to refer to "safety
34 and engineering standards" and provides that the standards
35 refer to guidelines or standards for the safe provision of

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1 gas or electricity as defined in applicable provisions of the
2 Code of Federal Regulations or as accredited by the American
3 national standards institute.